

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A method, comprising the steps of:

storing one or more audio channel profiles;

5 associating each of the one or more audio channel profiles with a personalized audio channel, wherein the audio channel profile associated with a personalized audio channel is used to select the sound recordings that are played for the personalized audio channel;

receiving a broadcast sound recording over a conventional broadcast audio channel;

playing the sound recording so that a user can listen to the broadcast sound recording;

10 receiving an indication from the user that the user likes the broadcast sound recording;

and

modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles in response to receiving the indication.

15 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles comprises the step of adding a sound recording identifier that identifies the sound recording to a list of sound recording identifiers included in the at least one profile.

20 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles comprises the step of adding an artist identifier that identifies the artist that recorded the sound recording to a list of artist identifiers included in the at least one profile.

4. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of enabling the user to specify the degree to which the user likes the sound recording.

5 5. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving an input from the user, wherein the input specifies one or more of the audio channel profiles and wherein the step of modifying at least one of the one or more profiles comprises the step of modifying at least one of the specified profiles.

10 6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving information about the received broadcast sound recording.

15 7. The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of selecting one or more of the audio channel profiles based on the received information concerning the sound recording and wherein the step of modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles comprises the step of modifying at least one of the selected profiles.

20 8. The method of claim 6, wherein the information concerning the sound recording indicates a genre to which the sound recording belongs.

9. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of storing the broadcast sound recording in a cache as the broadcast sound recording is being received.

10. The method of claim 9, further comprising the step of providing a means for enabling the user to provide an indication that the user would like to obtain a copy of the broadcast sound recording.

5 11. The method of claim 10, further comprising the steps of:  
determining whether the user may obtain a copy of the broadcast sound recording in response to the user providing an indication that the user would like to obtain a copy of the broadcast sound recording; and  
copying the sound recording from the cache to a non-volatile storage medium if it is  
10 determined that the user may obtain the copy.

12. A method for providing one or more personalized audio channels, wherein each personalized audio channel has a profile associated therewith and each profile contains information that is used in selecting the sound recordings that are played for the personalized audio channel associated with the profile, comprising the steps of:

receiving from the user an indication that the user desires to listen to a selected one of the one or more personalized audio channels;

playing a set of sound recordings, wherein the set of sound recordings matches the profile associated with the selected personalized audio channel;

20 receiving a broadcast sound recording over a conventional broadcast audio channel;  
playing the sound recording so that a user can listen to the broadcast sound recording;  
enabling the user to indicate that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording; and

modifying at least one of the one or more profiles in response to the user indicating that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording.

13. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of storing the broadcast sound recording in a cache as the broadcast sound recording is being received.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising the step of providing a means for enabling the user to provide an indication that the user would like to obtain a copy of the broadcast sound recording.

15. The method of claim 14, further comprising the steps of:  
determining whether the user may obtain a copy of the broadcast sound recording in response to the user providing an indication that the user would like to obtain a copy of the broadcast sound recording; and  
copying the sound recording from the cache to a non-volatile storage medium if it is determined that the user may obtain the copy.

16. A method for providing one or more personalized audio channels, wherein each personalized audio channel has a profile associated therewith and each profile contains information that is used in selecting the sound recordings that are played by the personalized audio channel associated with the profile, comprising the steps of:

using the information in one of the profiles to create a playlist, wherein the playlist specifies a set of sound recordings;

associating the playlist with the personalized audio channel that is associated with the profile used to create the playlist;

receiving from the user an indication that the user desires to listen to the personalized audio channel;

5 selecting, in response to the received indication, a sound recording specified in the playlist;

retrieving the selected sound recording;

playing the selected sound recording so that the user can listen to the sound recording;

receiving a broadcast sound recording over a conventional broadcast audio channel;

10 playing the sound recording so that a user can listen to the broadcast sound recording;

enabling the user to indicate that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording; and

modifying at least one of the one or more profiles in response to the user indicating that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of storing the broadcast sound recording in a cache as the broadcast sound recording is being received.

18. A system, comprising:

20 means for storing one or more audio channel profiles;

means for associating each of the one or more audio channel profiles with a personalized audio channel, wherein the audio channel profile associated with a personalized audio channel is used to select the sound recordings that are played for the personalized audio channel;

means for receiving a broadcast sound recording over a conventional broadcast audio channel;

means for playing the sound recording so that a user can listen to the sound recording;

means for receiving an indication from the user that the user likes the sound recording;

5 and

means for modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles in response to receiving the indication.

19. The system of claim 18, wherein the means for modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles comprises a means for adding a sound recording identifier that identifies the sound recording to a list of sound recording identifiers included in the at least one profile.

20. The system of claim 18, wherein the means for modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles comprises means for adding an artist identifier that identifies the artist that recorded the sound recording to a list of artist identifiers included in the at least one profile.

21. The system of claim 18, further comprising means for enabling the user to specify the degree to which the user likes the sound recording.

22. The system of claim 18, further comprising means for receiving an input from the user, wherein the input specifies one or more of the audio channel profiles and wherein the

means for modifying at least one of the one or more profiles modifies at least one of the specified profiles.

23. The system of claim 18, further comprising means for receiving information about the received broadcast sound recording.

24. The system of claim 23, further comprising means for selecting one or more of the audio channel profiles based on the received information concerning the sound recording and wherein the means for modifying at least one of the one or more audio channel profiles modifies at least one of the selected profiles.

25. The system of claim 23, wherein the information concerning the sound recording indicates a genre to which the sound recording belongs.

26. The system of claim 18, further comprising:  
a cache; and  
means storing the broadcast sound recording in the cache as the broadcast sound recording is being received by the receiving means.

27. A system for providing one or more personalized audio channels, wherein each personalized audio channel has a profile associated therewith and each profile contains information that is used in selecting the sound recordings that are played by the personalized audio channel associated with the profile, comprising:

means for receiving from the user an indication that the user desires to listen to a selected one of the one or more personalized audio channels;

means for playing a set sound recordings, wherein the set of sound recordings matches the profile associated with the selected personalized audio channel;

5 means for receiving a broadcast sound recording over a conventional broadcast audio channel;

means for playing the sound recording so that a user can listen to the broadcast sound recording;

means for enabling the user to indicate that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording; and

10 means for modifying at least one of the one or more profiles in response to the user indicating that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording.

28. The system of claim 27, further comprising:

a cache; and

means storing the broadcast sound recording in the cache as the broadcast sound recording is being received by the receiving means.

20 29. A system for providing one or more personalized audio channels, wherein each personalized audio channel has a profile associated therewith and each profile contains information that is used in selecting the sound recordings that are played by the personalized audio channel associated with the profile, comprising:

playlist creation means for creating one or more playlists, wherein each playlist is



associated with one of the personalized audio channels, wherein each playlist specifies a set of sound recordings, and wherein the playlist creations means uses the information in the profile associated with a personalized audio channel in creating the playlist associated with the personalized audio channel;

5 means for receiving from the user an indication that the user desires to listen to one of the personalized audio channels;

means for selecting in response to the received indication a sound recording specified in the playlist that is associated with the personalized audio channel to which the user desires to listen;

10 means for retrieving the selected sound recording;

means for playing the selected sound recording so that the user can listen to the sound recording;

means for receiving a broadcast sound recording over a conventional broadcast audio channel;

15 means for playing the sound recording so that a user can listen to the broadcast sound recording;

means for enabling the user to indicate that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording; and

20 means for modifying at least one of the one or more profiles in response to the user indicating that the user likes or does not like the broadcast sound recording.

30. The system of claim 29, further comprising:  
a cache; and

means storing the broadcast sound recording in the cache as the broadcast sound recording is being received by the receiving means.